

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 1776 - HB 2321**

March 6, 2014

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires local boards of education to appoint content review committees during each textbook adoption cycle. Authorizes any individual residing in a local school district and who submits a written application to be eligible for appointment to a content review committee. Content review committee members shall serve for two years. Requires the Department of Education, as requested by a local education agency, to assist LEAs in recruiting local content review committees. LEAs shall publicize the opportunity to serve on local content review committees to the public. Requires content review committees to review textbooks on the accuracy and appropriateness of the content for the subject area and grade level for which the textbook is intended. Authorizes a local board of education to reject a textbook based on the recommendation of the content review committee. Local boards of education that reject all books on the textbook commission's list for a grade level and subject may adopt any textbook it finds appropriate without applying to the Commissioner of Education for a waiver. Authorizes DOE to develop training seminars for members of local content review committees through webinars or in-person training. Authorizes DOE to develop templates for reviewing textbooks. Requires DOE to develop a process for members of the content review committees to submit their reviews to DOE. Reviews shall be posted on the DOE website without identifying the reviewer. Members of a local content review committee shall serve with no compensation. Requires local content review committee members to take an oral oath of office and agree to the LEA's code of ethics in writing.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures \$51,500**

Assumptions:

- DOE will carry out all functions that it is authorized or required to perform. The fiscal estimate reflects the cost of implementation.
- DOE will hire one Education Consultant at cost of \$51,526 consisting of salary (\$42,000) and benefits (\$9,526) to perform the new DOE functions.
- Local content review committee members will not be compensated.
- Local boards of education may adopt textbooks of their choosing. However, it is assumed that local boards of education will not adopt textbooks that are not on the list of state-adopted textbooks, if doing so will significantly increase local expenditures. Any increase in local expenditures will be permissive and is estimated to be not significant.

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**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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